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Amendments to the Specification:

Please <u>replace</u> the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

EP 0 395 157 AUS patent 5,075,589 issued 24 December 1991 to Dirks et al. discloses an oxide cathode comprising a carrier body, which is essentially composed of nickel, and a layer of an electron-emitting material containing alkaline earth oxide including barium and maximally 5% by weight yttrium oxide, scandium oxide or rare earth metal oxide, said yttrium oxide, scandium oxide and the rare earth metal oxide being particles, the majority of which have a diameter of maximally 5 μ m.